

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

CINCLANT

CINCUSAFE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3727

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS REQUEST FOR DECLASSIFICATION OF THE FINAL
REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP OF THE
STEERING GROUP ON SPECIALIZATION OF DEFENSE TASKS
IN THE CENTRAL REGION

REF: A. DPC/D(73)31

B. USNATO 3535

C. DRC/N(75)17

SUMMARY: IN RESPONSE TO NETHERLANDS REQUEST, DEFENSE REVIEW
COMMITTEE (DRC) VICE-CHAIRMAN BRABAND PROPOSES THAT THE DRC
APPROVE AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF ENCLOSURE 1, ANNEX II TO
DPC/D(73)31, FINAL REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP ON SPECIALIZA-
TION OF DEFENSE TASKS IN THE CENTRAL REGION (REF A) AND
CONFIDENTIAL

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RECOMMENDS THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL CIRCULATE DOCUMENT FOR
APPROVAL BY THE DPC USING THE SILENCE PROCEDURE. WE RECOM-
MEND THAT WASHINGTON AGREE WITH PROPOSALS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT JULY 1 DRC MEETING AN INFORMAL AD HOC GROUP WAS FORMED TO RECONCILE NATIONAL DIFFERENCES REGARDING THE NETHERLANDS REQUEST TO DECLASSIFY THE FINAL REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP OF THE STEERING GROUP ON SPECIALIZATION OF DEFENSE TASKS IN THE CENTRAL REGION (REF B). ON JULY 4 THE INFORMAL AD HOC GROUP MADE UP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM INTERESTED NATIONS AND SHAPE MET TO DISCUSS FURTHER THE NETHERLANDS REQUEST. DURING THE MEETING BELGIAN AND FRG REPRESENTATIVES MAINTAINED THEIR ADAMANT OPPOSITION TO DECLASSIFYING THE COMPLETE FINAL REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP, BUT COULD GO ALONG WITH DECLASSIFYING THE FIRST EIGHT PAGES OF THE REPORT (ENCLOSURE 1, ANNEX II). BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE (TAYMANS) EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE IMPACT OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF AN UNCLASSIFIED AIR SPECIALIZATION PAPER ON THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OF ITS DECISION TO PURCHASE THE F-16. IN THE SAME VEIN, THE FRG REPRESENTATIVE (WELZ) SAID THAT THE FRG IS SENSITIVE ABOUT THE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF AIR SPECIALIZATION ON THE MRCA PROGRAM. IN ADDITION, THE FRG BELIEVES THAT AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF THE ENTIRE FINAL REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP WOULD GIVE THE WARSAW PACT TOO MUCH INFORMATION ON THE NATO AIR FORCES' CAPABILITIES AND WEAKNESSES. TAKING ACCOUNT OF THESE VIEWS, THE AD HOC GROUP AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO THE DRC THAT THE FIRST EIGHT PAGES OF THE FINAL REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP BE DECLASSIFIED, AFTER MINOR MODIFICATIONS WERE MADE TO SAFEGUARD SECURITY.

2. BY DRN/N(75)17 DATED JULY 4, 1975 (POUCHED) VICE-CHAIRMAN BRABAND PROPOSES THAT THE DRC APPROVE THE TEXT OF AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF ANNEX II TO DPC/D(73)31, ENCLOSURE 1 (REF C) AND THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL CIRCULATE THE DOCUMENT FOR APPROVAL BY THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE UNDER THE SILENCE PROCEDURE. IF THERE ARE ANY OBJECTIONS TO THESE PROPOSALS THEY SHOULD BE MADE PRIOR TO JULY 28. COMMENT: WE RECOMMEND THAT WASHINGTON AGREE WITH VICE-CHAIRMAN'S PROPOSALS UNDER THE SILENCE PROCEDURE. END COMMENT. PEREZ

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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GROUP ON SPECIALIZATION OF DEFENSE TASKS IN THE CENTRAL REGION
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
THE HAGUE
OSLO

CINCLANT
CINCUSAFE
USCINCEUR
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